



Technical Bulletin #40:

How to Feed Moringa to Fish

Why and When to Feed Moringa to Fish

Fresh Moringa leaves are a highly nutritious supplement to the diet of plant-eating fish. They are particularly useful for raising fish like Tilapia and Silver Barb. Fresh Moringa leaves provide additional protein and vitamins that can improve the growth and health of these fish.

How Many Moringa to Plant

As few as 50 Moringa trees can provide a feed supplement for the fish in an aquaculture pond. A garden plot that is about seven meters by seven meters, with trees that are spaced one meter apart will be adequate for growing Moringa (Figure 2).

Cultivation

For transplanting and cultivation information, see: Technical Bulletin #24 “Moringa – An Excellent Source of Nutrition”.

Harvesting for a Continuous Supply

Moringa leaves can be harvested every six weeks. Divide the Moringa garden plot into five sections with 10 trees in each section. Each week the leaves of one section can be harvested and fed to the fish. By the time the fifth section is harvested the first section will be ready to be harvested again. This way the plot can provide a continuous supply of leaves on a six week cycle.

How to Harvest Moringa

Harvest the leaves according to the instructions found in Technical Bulletin #24 “Moringa – An Excellent Source of Nutrition”. **The fish can only eat the leaves**, so remove the leaves and discard the stems. **Feed the leaves fresh**. Feed the fish only what they can completely consume in 10-15 minutes. The Moringa leaves can be fed twice a day. It is important not to feed more than the fish eat. Dead and decaying leaves that remain in the water will use up oxygen in the water that the fish need to survive.



Figure 1: Moringa leaves and seed pods

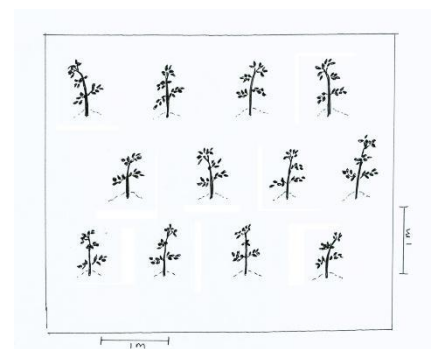


Figure 2: Spacing of Moringa trees in garden



Figure 3: Moringa trees in garden plot

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